

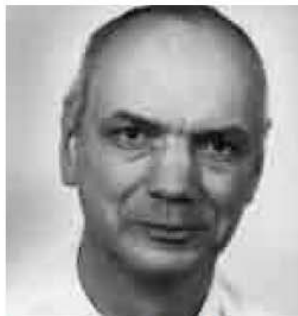
EIBIR has set ambitious goals with a new strategic plan

By Jürgen Hennig, Freiburg/DE and Gabriel Krestin, Rotterdam/NL

After almost four years since the foundation of the European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research (EIBIR), we are pleased to provide you with a review of its structure and activities, as well as an outlook on the first achievements of our joint initiatives and international projects, and information on future networking activities. The mission of EIBIR is to coordinate and promote the development of biomedical imaging technologies within Europe and support the dissemination of knowledge with the ultimate goal of improving diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. We are particularly delighted with the success of grant proposals submitted to the EU Research Framework Programmes FP7, ENCITE (European Network for Cell Imaging and Tracking Expertise) and HAMAM (Highly Accurate Breast Cancer Diagnosis through Integration of Biological Knowledge, Novel Imaging Modalities, and Modelling) as well as Euro-BioImaging – from Molecule to Patient, coordinated by EIBIR.

Over 40 new research institutes joined the EIBIR Network during 2009, increasing the membership to over 280 research institutes with a focus on biomedical imaging or related disciplines. This number shows that networking activities in our specialty are much needed and highly appreciated, and it reconfirms EIBIR's mission to build a bridge between basic and clinical research, and technological and pharmacological development.

During 2009 it became clear that as the EIBIR Network and activities grow, there is a need for guidance of the various bodies in order to ensure efficiency, well-structured activities and a focused use of resources. Therefore, guidelines have been set up for the various bodies of EIBIR, which have been approved by the shareholder



Prof. Jürgen Hennig from Freiburg/DE is the Scientific Director of EIBIR.

organisations and distributed to the relevant bodies.

The aim of the guidelines is to ensure a more active participation in the activities of EIBIR on the part of the shareholder organisations and industry partners, and to set up a more pro-active, multi-disciplinary Scientific Advisory Board. In addition to the guidelines, EIBIR has developed a Strategic Plan for the years 2010 to 2012, with the aim of ensuring the financial viability of EIBIR and its structure and activities.

The European Society of Radiology (ESR) has provided significant financial support to EIBIR since its establishment and will continue to do so in the future with a contribution of about €200,000 per year. As the level of services provided by EIBIR has been significantly improved and is much appreciated by the European biomedical imaging research community at large, EIBIR has proposed a concept of modest service package fees to be



Prof. Gabriel Krestin from Rotterdam/NL is Chairman of the EIBIR General Meeting.

paid by industry partners. EIBIR Network members and shareholder organisations that benefit from the services provided by EIBIR. We are confident that this new concept will ensure a stable future for EIBIR and its network members in particular, and pave the way for further development of our services and network activities.

Many of our new initiatives during 2009 would not have been possible without the continuous support of the European Society of Radiology and our industry partners, who subscribed to the mission of EIBIR and have provided financial support right from the beginning. Starting in 2010, we hope to see the Industry Panel grow, with a number of new industry members taking on active roles in our network, as the new support concept foresees reduced fees to attract a larger number of industry members.

More and more European organisations are eager to support and seek cooperation with EIBIR. Negotiations are currently underway with the Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe (CIRSE) as well as with the European Society for the promotion of Picture Archiving and Communication Systems in Medicine (EuroPACS), who have expressed their wish to join EIBIR as shareholder organisations. EIBIR's management and coordination of European research projects has increased in 2009, and the team of project managers at the EIBIR office has expanded in order to be able to cope with the growing demand for support, from project idea and proposal writing, to project management and coordination of dissemination and training activities.

During 2009, the ESFRI project Euro-BioImaging, a pan-European research infrastructure project aiming to provide access to imaging technologies across the full scale of biological and medical applications, from molecule to

patient, has gained significant shape, although not without teething problems, with the proposal for the 3-year preparatory phase being submitted in December. The project is jointly coordinated by EIBIR and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory. More information can be found at: www.eurobioimaging.eu

The two FP7 research projects that were started in 2008 under the coordination of EIBIR (the cell imaging project ENCITE and the breast cancer imaging project HAMAM) progressed well during 2009, with their first annual reports submitted to the European Commission and some satisfying initial results published. In addition, we are pleased to see the project start of PED-DOSE.NET, a literature survey on dosimetry and the health effects of diagnostic applications of radiopharmaceuticals, in early 2010, and to inform you about new project proposals that were initiated during 2009:

A COST Action on imaging and theranostics was submitted in January 2010. The aim of the project is to gather Europe's major research groups in the development of novel diagnostic/therapeutic agents (theranostics). In collaboration with an international team of experts in 14 countries, this interdisciplinary work will enable understanding of the microscopic picture of drug delivery/release and therapeutic effect.

During 2009 we were pleased to officially welcome the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) as a new co-shareholder organisation of EIBIR. We look forward to a fruitful cooperation and to joining forces in ensuring a better integration of imaging into clinical trials. The first step in that direction was the creation of the EIBIR Cancer Imaging Working Group, made up of members from the fields of radiology, nuclear medicine and image processing, as a new joint initiative.

There is an **EIBIR lounge in Foyer F** at the entrance level of the ECR congress, where further information will be available. Research and innovation will help to secure the future of our profession. Therefore, your personal contribution will be crucial to achieving EIBIR's goals.

All ECR delegates and interested institutions are cordially invited to visit us there to receive information on EIBIR activities and discuss hot topics and ideas in biomedical imaging research.

We cordially invite you to the **2nd EIBIR Session** to learn about EIBIR's scientific activities (see box on the left side).

More information on the session programme: <http://www.eibir.org> > News

EIBIR EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL IMAGING RESEARCH



EIBIR Session at ECR 2010

News of the European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research & Highlights of scientific results within the biomedical imaging community
Sunday, March 7, 2010
10:30-12:30, Room Z

Moderators: G. Krestin, Rotterdam/NL
J. Hennig, Freiburg/DE

10:30 - 10:35

Welcome – EIBIR Mission, goals and structure
G. Krestin, Chairman of the EIBIR General Meeting, Rotterdam/NL

10:35 - 10:45

News on the EIBIR scientific strategy and networking activities
J. Hennig, Scientific Director of EIBIR, Freiburg/DE

10:45 - 11:00

EuroAIM – New projects in process
F. Sardanelli, Director of the EuroAIM Initiative, Milano/IT

11:00 - 11:15

ENCITE: Cell therapy – a promising research field of modern medicine
M. Hohn, Köln/DE

11:15 - 11:30

HAMAM: Integrating information and knowledge in a multimodal breast imaging environment
N. Karssemeijer, Nijmegen/NL

11:30 - 11:45

Euro-BioImaging – from Molecule to Patient
J. Frekizer, Aarhus/DK

11:45 - 12:00

Biomedical imaging research in the 7th Framework Programme
Ph. Jehenson, EU Commission, DG Research, Brussels/BE

12:00 - 12:30

Discussion & Reception

Visit the EIBIR Lounge in Foyer F at the entrance level to get information on EIBIR's activities and projects!

www.eibir.org

3rd Workstation Face-Off Session

After the great success in 2008 and 2009, ECR 2010 will, for the third time, feature a 'Workstation Face-Off' session.

Continuous rapid technical advances in CT require state-of-the-art post processing tools and workstations.

Increasingly, radiologists have to be able to interpret 3D datasets and large data volumes. For numerous applications, dedicated post processing workstations are available. All major vendors offer an ample variety of hardware and software, and it is often difficult to recognise the individual strengths and weaknesses of different equipment. Our 3rd annual Face-Off Session will allow you to get an impression of the 3D capabilities and large data volume handling provided by the latest workstation technology.

Several workstations from vendors like GE, Philips Healthcare, Siemens, Terarecon, Visage

Imaging GmbH and Vital Images will be set up on stage next to each other, and a selection of cases provided by the ESR will be demonstrated. These cases will for the first time include a PET/CT dataset that focuses on follow-up imaging and comparison of lesions over time; in addition, a CT perfusion dataset has to be interpreted.

The aim of this session is to simulate a realistic 'reading room' atmosphere and to give an impression of how different workstations perform in a clinical scenario. We would like to cordially invite you to attend this exciting 'tournament' of post-processing!

Face-Off Session

Friday, March 5, 12:15-13:30, Room F1
Coordinators: C.R. Becker; Munich/DE
A. Graser; Munich/DE